

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## New Jersey Department of Personnel Notifies Attorney General's Office to Law Enforcement Candidates' Missing Personal Information

**TRENTON** — The New Jersey Department of Personnel (DOP) has alerted the state Attorney General's Office to missing documents containing social security numbers belonging to law enforcement candidates.

Twelve pages with the names, social security numbers and test location information for more than 1,200 candidates were determined to be missing during the Law Enforcement Entry-Level Examination at East Orange High School on June 3. Portions of a list containing names and Social Security numbers were inadvertently picked up by several test candidates.

In accordance with the state's Identity Theft Prevention Act, the DOP has reported the theft to the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police for investigation. Consumer reporting agencies have also been notified of the breach of confidential information.

"Identity theft is a serious concern and we are taking steps to mitigate the potential for identify theft," said Personnel Commissioner Rolando Torres, Jr. "We believe that the information was not taken intentionally and, therefore, do not believe it will be used inappropriately. However, it is our responsibility to ensure that applicants' personal information is properly safeguarded."

The DOP is contacting affected test candidates and asking them to contact the New Jersey Department of Personnel or the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs for further information or guidance.

**Personnel's Information Center** (609) 292-4144 or email <u>leeidentityinfo@dop.state.nj.us</u> **Consumer Hotline** (973) 504-6200 or (800) 242-5846 (New Jersey only), press 7 for information about the New Jersey's Identity Theft Law.

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The mission of the New Jersey Department of Personnel is to attract, develop and retain a high quality workforce for State, county and municipal governments and to partner with management and labor to develop a fair, efficient human resource delivery system rewarding quality, merit, and productivity.